



REFERENCE CHARACTERS FOR INFORMATION ONLY
NOT TO LIMIT THE SCOPE OF CLAIMS
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1. A motor vehicle comprising:

a body structure that has a lateral structure,
a vehicle seat that is fastened to the body structure, and
a side impact protection device for a passenger in the vehicle, the side impact protection device including a head airbag, with a first inflation device that can deploy upward in a region of breastwork of the lateral structure, and a side airbag, with a second inflation device that can deploy laterally from the seat, wherein the side airbag is designed as a thorax airbag (19) which, in a ready position, is arranged, together with the second inflation device (20), inside a seat back (8) of the vehicle seat (5), and which can deploy out of a side wall of the seat back (21) essentially toward a front (Arrow 23), and wherein, when the thorax airbag (19) is in its deployed state (ST2), its upper edge (24) comes to rest next to the breastwork (16) of the lateral structure (3').

2. The motor vehicle according to Claim 1, wherein a deployment opening for the thorax airbag (19) lies below a level of the breastwork (16) on the side wall of the seat back (21), on a thorax protection module (12), or both below the level of the breastwork on the side wall of the seat back and on the thorax protection module.

3. The motor vehicle according to Claim 2, wherein the thorax airbag (19) can deploy out of the deployment opening, at an upward angle (Arrow 25), in the direction of the breastwork (16).

4. The motor vehicle according to Claim 1, wherein the head airbag (13) with the first inflation device (14) is positioned directly below the breastwork (16).

5. The motor vehicle according to Claim 1, wherein the thorax airbag (19) can deploy essentially parallel to the lateral structure (3'), and the head airbag (13) can deploy essentially parallel to a side window (4).

6. The motor vehicle according to Claim 1, wherein the seat back is tilt adjustable, and wherein the upper edge (24) at least partially follows an imaginary circle (KS), which runs around a pivoting axis (8') of the tilt adjustable seat back (8).

7. The motor vehicle according to Claim 6, wherein the imaginary circle (KS) and thus in part the upper edge (24) extend in sections concentrically around the pivoting axis (8') of the seat back (8).

8. The motor vehicle according to Claim 1, wherein a lower edge (24') of the thorax airbag (19) extends up to a pelvic region (BI) of the passenger.

9. The motor vehicle according to Claim 1, wherein the head airbag (13) deploys from the breastwork (16) only upward and parallel to a side window (4).

10. The motor vehicle according to Claim 2, wherein the head airbag (13) with the first inflation device (14) is positioned directly below the breastwork (16).

11. The motor vehicle according to Claim 3, wherein the head airbag (13) with the first inflation device (14) is positioned directly below the breastwork (16).

12. A side impact protection device for a motor vehicle having a body structure that has a lateral structure, a vehicle seat that is fastened to the body structure, and a side impact protection device for a passenger in the vehicle, the side impact protection device comprising:

a head airbag, with a first inflation device that can deploy upward in a region of breastwork of the lateral structure, and

a side airbag, with a second inflation device that can deploy laterally from the seat,

wherein the side airbag is designed as a thorax airbag (19) which, in a ready position, is arranged, together with the second inflation device (20), inside a seat back (8) of the vehicle seat (5), and which can deploy out of a side wall of the seat back (21) essentially toward a front (Arrow 23), and

wherein, when the thorax airbag (19) is in its deployed state (ST2), its upper edge (24) comes to rest next to the breastwork (16) of the lateral structure (3').

13. The device according to Claim 12, wherein a deployment opening for the thorax airbag (19) lies below a level of the breastwork (16) on the side wall of the seat back (21), on a thorax protection module (12), or both below the level of the breastwork on the side wall of the seat back and on the thorax protection module.

14. The device according to Claim 13, wherein the thorax airbag (19) can deploy out of the deployment opening, at an upward angle (Arrow 25), in the direction of the breastwork (16).

15. The device according to Claim 12, wherein the head airbag (13) with the first inflation device (14) is positioned directly below the breastwork (16).

16. The device according to Claim 12, wherein the thorax airbag (19) can deploy essentially parallel to the lateral structure (3'), and the head airbag (13) can deploy essentially parallel to a side window (4).

17. The device according to Claim 12, wherein the seat back is tilt adjustable, and wherein the upper edge (24) at least partially follows an imaginary circle (KS), which runs around a pivoting axis (8') of the tilt adjustable seat back (8).

18. The device according to Claim 17, wherein the imaginary circle (KS) and thus in part the upper edge (24) extend in sections concentrically around the pivoting axis (8') of the seat back (8).

19. The device according to Claim 12, wherein a lower edge (24') of the thorax airbag (19) extends up to a pelvic region (BI) of the passenger.

20. The device according to Claim 12, wherein the head airbag (13) deploys from the breastwork (16) only upward and parallel to a side window (4).

21. A process of using a side impact protection device for a motor vehicle having a body structure that has a lateral structure, a vehicle seat that is fastened to the body structure, and a side impact protection device for a passenger in the vehicle, the side impact protection device including a head airbag, with a first inflation device that can deploy upward in a region of breastwork of the lateral structure, and a side airbag, with a second inflation device that can deploy laterally from the seat, comprising:

arranging the side airbag, which is designed as a thorax airbag (19), together with the second inflation device (20), inside a seat back (8) of the vehicle seat (5) in a ready position, and

deploying the thorax airbag out of a side wall of the seat back (21) essentially toward a front (Arrow 23) so that, when the thorax airbag (19) is in its deployed state (ST2), its upper edge (24) comes to rest next to the breastwork (16) of the lateral structure (3').